

VOTER REGISTRATION

As a City of Whitewater resident for at least 28 days , you may register to vote in the Clerk's Office on the second floor of City Hall or through a Special Registration Deputy until 20 days before each election. No proof of residence is necessary during this "open registration" period (up to 20 days before an election). During the 20-day period before an election, proof of residency is required. You must meet the following requirements to be eligible to register and vote:

- * Be a United States Citizen;
- * Be age 18 or older by Election Day;
- * Be a resident of the City of Whitewater for at least 28 days before an election; and
- * If convicted of a felony, have completed the terms of sentence including probation / parole.

When registering within 20 days of an election at the City Clerk's office or on Election Day at your polling place, you must present one of the following documents to prove residency. **THE DOCUMENT MUST CONTAIN YOUR NAME AND YOUR CURRENT CITY OF WHITEWATER ADDRESS**

- * Wisconsin driver's license or Wisconsin ID card;
- * Utility bill such as a water bill, electric or gas bill, cable television bill, or telephone bill;
- * Bank statement;
- * Property tax bill or receipt;
- * Government check or document;
- * Paycheck (must include address);

NOTE TO UWW STUDENTS The UWW Hawk Card Office, upon request, will issue you a specialized UWW identification card that will comply with requirements when presented along with a current fee receipt payment.

You may register at the City Clerk's office from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays **until the Friday before the Election, or you may register at the Polling Place on Election Day.**

ADDRESS / NAME CHANGE

Name and address changes require completing a new Voter Registration Form (GAB-131). If you move from the City of Whitewater, please cancel your Whitewater registration with the Clerk's office and re-register at your new municipality.

ELECTION DAY VOTING

When you arrive at your polling location, a greeter will ask if you are registered to vote and remind you that you will need an acceptable form of identification in order to vote. If you are already registered, you will go to the table with your ward's poll books. You will state your name and address to the election inspectors, show them your photo identification, and sign one of the poll books. After the inspector has verified your identity, you will receive a voter number. You will then receive the appropriate ballot and proceed to a voting booth.

If you have not registered prior to Election Day, or if your name or address has changed since the last election, you will need to stop at the registration table to re-register to vote.

CASTING YOUR VOTE

Because Whitewater is located in two different counties, there are two different voting machine systems and different ballot types. Instructions at the top of the ballot will tell you the type of election and how many candidates to vote for in each office. **If you feel you need additional assistance, please ask an election official before you cast your ballot.**

After you have marked your ballot, leave the voting booth and proceed to the machine. Give your voter number ticket to the election inspector then insert your ballot into the slot. You will feel a slight pull as the machine accepts in the ballot and reads and tabulates the votes. If an error has been made (such as voting for more candidates than allowed), the machine will return your ballot. An election official will assist you and provide another ballot, if necessary. You cannot cross out or erase on a ballot. State law allows the voter a total of three ballots if mistakes are made and the ballot must be remade.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Absentee voting must be carefully regulated to prevent the potential for fraud. To avoid any delays, contact the Clerk's office as soon as possible to vote absentee.

If you are confined or disabled, a ballot can be mailed to you as long as you are registered to vote. If you are going to be out of town on Election Day, you may vote at the City Clerk's office. Ballots are available on the third Monday prior to an election. **State law prohibits absentee voting in the Clerk's office the Saturday, Sunday and Monday before an election. Please keep this in mind as you schedule your absentee voting.**

Absentee voting also covers U.S. citizens residing abroad, members of the military and their spouses, nursing home residents, hospitalized electors, and those on jury duty. Please contact the municipal Clerk as soon as possible if you need a ballot under these circumstances.

Only indefinitely confined voters, nursing home, military, and overseas voters are exempt from the photo i.d. law. ALL OTHER ABSENTEE VOTERS MUST PROVIDE AN ACCEPTABLE FORM OR IDENTIFICATION BEFORE THEY MAY RECEIVE A BALLOT.

For further information, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 262-473-0500.